


**Government of the District of Columbia  
Office of the Chief Financial Officer**



**Natwar M. Gandhi**  
Chief Financial Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Vincent C. Gray  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Natwar M. Gandhi  
Chief Financial Officer 

**DATE:** January 27, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement: "Practices of Medicine and Naturopathic Medicine Amendment Act of 2009"

**REFERENCE:** Bill 18-60, As Introduced

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation.

**Background**

The proposed legislation would amend the Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985<sup>1</sup> to:

- Amend the definition of the practice of medicine;
- Terminate the Advisory Committee on Naturopathic Medicine;
- Repeal licensing and registration requirements for naturopaths; and
- Repeal sections of the D.C. Official Code pertaining to the scope of practice and required disclosures for naturopaths.

**Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation. Repealing licensing and registration requirements for naturopaths would result in a marginal revenue reduction for the Health Occupations Regulation

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<sup>1</sup> Effective March 25, 1986. D.C. Law 6-99; D.C. Official Code § 3-1201.01 *et seq.*

Fund ("Fund").<sup>2</sup> The Office of the Chief Financial Officer concurs with the Department of Health (DOH) that such revenue losses would not result in a noteworthy impact on the budget and financial plan.

Should budget shortfalls in the Fund arise in the future (as a consequence of the proposed legislation or due to any other factor) in accordance with District law, DOH could adjust licensing and certification fees.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> See D.C. Official Code § 7-733.

<sup>3</sup> As provided in D.C. Official Code § 3-1204.09, the Mayor has the authority to establish fees for all services related to the regulation of all health occupations listed in Chapter 12 of Title 3 of the D.C. Official Code.